

A. Well, if you will recall, the recommendations of the Nelson Committee provided for the institution of certain deductibles which allowed a continuation of the medically indigent people in the category that were not covered by Federal assistance to be continued at the same projected Health Department '69 budget figure. Now what we've got to figure, and what Mr. Slicher's committee is now engaged in is deciding, at least temporarily, how much of a cutback in the '69 budget percentagewise must be requested from the various agencies. And then we'll have to await the reports of the agencies themselves as to the areas in which they are going to effectuate the cutbacks. So I can't really give you anything definite on that this early. There will be an effort, however, to make the cutbacks as painless as can possibly be accomplished with respect to the Medicaid program.

Q. Governor, do the travel restrictions apply to the other two elected officials — the Comptroller and the Attorney General?

A. Well, of course I am not certain as to my authority to demand that two elected officials in high capacity should curtail their personal travel. I have enough confidence in these men to think that they would certainly comply with the spirit of the directive. I have no intention of making any demands upon them in this respect. I might also mention, because it will probably come to light, that shortly I will be at the Republican Governors' Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for a couple of days. This Conference is financed entirely by Party money and there is no State money involved. I think that should be made clear at the moment.

Q. Governor, how about the departments and special funds like the Roads Commission and possibly parts of the University and so forth? Will they be affected?

A. Well, the effect of dedicated money cutbacks is something that I'd want to await the Attorney General's general impressions of, and he is preparing at the present time a broad overview of those areas — mandated areas of expenditure and areas which we are not justified in reducing. When I have his report I will then be able to make a decision about roads monies and also mandated education funds and that sort of thing. I would point out, however, that if the situation becomes of true crisis proportions later in the year the Legislature has the authority under its normal procedures to pass laws which may change the mandated portion of budgetary inclusions so that they are not mandated.

Q. Has that been discussed?